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ECHO
The Voice of the Highlands since 1884

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VROOM! MEOW! VROOM!
Maple Lake cottager Connor Campbell goes for a spin around the Kitty Cat course in Haliburton during Saturday's Winterfest activities. Volunteers with Haliburton County Search and Rescue Team ran the popular free event for young snowmobilers. For more Winterfest photos and the list of radar run winners, please see pages 8 and 9.

Water removal worries:

■ *Ratepayers appeal Woodland Ranch plan to take water from Little Soyers Lake*

PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

Property owners on Soyers Lake fear a developer's plan to take more than 2.7 million litres of water per day from a connecting lake will drop their own water level and harm the environment.

The Soyers Lake Ratepayers' Association has requested a hearing to appeal a Ministry of the Environment decision allowing Woodland Ranch to draw water from Little Soyers Lake.

Woodland Ranch, which owns all the land surrounding Little Soyers Lake, wants water to irrigate two 18-hole golf courses included in its dude ranch development proposal.

On Jan. 14 the Ministry granted owners of the 4,800-acre ranch approval to take 4,540 litres (1,000 gallons) of water per minute from the small lake for a maximum of 10 hours per day between May 15 and Sept. 30.

The agreement entitles Woodland Ranch to draw water over a 25-year period, beginning May 20, 2000.

If it drew the maximum amount of water under the terms of the agreement, the ranch would remove 2.72 million litres (600,000 gallons) from the lake each day.

But the Soyers Lake Ratepayers' Association wants the agreement amended and has requested a hearing with the Ontario Environmental

See **Soyers Lake** *page 4*

Highlander to play at the Brier

Paul Madden and team earn berth at Canada's top curling event

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

When the new Ontario men's curling champions take to the ice in next month's Brier, the cheering section from the Haliburton Highlands will be particularly boisterous.

Playing lead for Rich Moffatt's rink is 35-year-old Paul Madden, who learned how to curl in Haliburton.

"When Bob Colliver was here at the high school, curling was part of the phys.ed. program and Paul also curled with the high school team. It's been his dream to be in the Brier ever since," says his mother, Louise Cooper of West Guilford, who was in Brantford on Sunday with her husband Sid to watch Paul's fifth try to reach his goal.

In the final match, Moffatt's team, which also included Howard Rajala as vice and Chris Fulton as second, played against the team which had beaten them in last year's

See **Madden** *page 2*

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Student's artwork goes to provincial Legion contest

here, there & everywhere — news and events worth noting

A Haliburton Highlands Secondary School student's artwork will go to the Royal Canadian Legion's provincial literacy competition — the furthest a local student has gone in the competition. Jenn Orpana's poster was given first prize in the local competition run by Haliburton's Branch 129. It then won at the zone and district levels. A date hasn't yet been announced for judging in the provincial competition.

Cross country skiers recently raised money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation when an open house was held at Glebe Park. This Saturday, it's the downhill skiers' turn. Ski for Heart is at Sir Sam's Ski Area in Eagle Lake on Feb. 20, with registration from 8:30 to 10 a.m.. Those who raise $50 in pledges can ski for free, and there's a free hot lunch. There will be fun snowboarding races between 11 and noon, and skiing races from 1 to 2. Those who haven't raised pledges can participate if they pay a $5 entrance fee, which will be donated to the Foundation as well. Lots of terrific prizes are available and will be presented between 3 and 4. Participants, however, are reminded that they have to be at the chalet during the presentation to receive their prize.

Trent University student Rob Crane is conducting a survey on local opinions about a southern access into Algonquin Park through Haliburton County. Survey forms are available through Carol Stamp, who works at Hawk River Construction. He's also willing to do the survey by phone. If you'd like to get involved, please leave him a message through Mrs. Stamp at 457-1386 or 754-2168.

More pledges have come in for this year's Snowarama, held recently at Haliburton Forest, pushing to total amount raised to $20,770. The Haliburton Rotary Club hosted the event, its largest annual fundraiser for the Easter Seals Society.

Madden and teammates win Ontario title after several years

From page 1

attempt to get to the ultimate curling event in Canada.

"They're all good friends but it is nice to win," says Mrs. Cooper of the competition between Moffatt's rink from Ottawa and Phil Daniels' rink from Tilbury.

It was Moffatt's ninth attempt at the Ontario men's title; both Madden and Rajala have been curling with him for seven years.

Mrs. Cooper, who was teaching in Korea last year when her son reached the finals, was pleased to witness Paul's success on Sunday.

"Oh, it was exciting to be there," she says. "The game was close but they were never behind so it wasn't too stressful to watch."

Madden's skill as a curler, she says, is "he's dead on every time. He's really steady."

When he's not curling, Madden is a technical support technician with People Soft Canada, a computer company which provides human resources and payroll software to governments and major corporations.

Announcement
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Crash leaves one woman in critical condition, another seriously injured

PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

One woman was still unconscious yesterday and another has serious injuries following a car accident outside Haliburton during Friday afternoon's snow storm.

Laura Batten, 29, of Newmarket, was just a few kilometres from Haliburton where she was to meet her boyfriend, Greg Scheffee, when her car reportedly went out of control and collided with an oncoming car.

Batten was listed in critical condition Monday with serious internal injuries at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. She remained unconscious and doctors were keeping her heavily sedated, said Greg Scheffee's father, Jim Scheffee.

The driver of the other vehicle, Dysart resident Virginia Woroz, 67, was still at Soldiers Memorial Hospital in Orillia Monday, where she was being treated for serious injuries.

Both women were first taken in separate ambulances to Haliburton Hospital.

The accident happened on Highway 121 near the Hilltop Market, just a couple kilometres from Haliburton Lumber, where Greg Scheffee was working with his father.

"As soon as he was told of the accident he rushed over to the hospital," said Mr. Scheffee.

While Batten was taken by air ambulance to St. Mike's, Greg Scheffee drove down to the hospital to be by her side.

Minden OPP are continuing their investigation into the accident. No charges have been laid by police.

CRASH SENDS TWO TO HOSPITAL:

Dysart firefighters and a Minden OPP officer survey one vehicle involved in Friday's two-car accident on Hwy. 121, above. At left, the second vehicle in the crash was demolished, sending its driver to hospital in critical condition with serious injuries.

Building permit fees set to increase in Minden

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

The following are brief reports of items discussed at Thursday's meeting of Anson, Hindon and Minden council.

At its next meeting, council is prepared to vote on a by-law which would increase the flat fee for most types of building permits to $50 each.

After compiling the various rates from neighbouring municipalities and towns, by-law enforcement officer Dana Rogers said Minden's were often the lowest, and this was before the other municipalities went ahead with anticipated fee increases.

For instance, when building a new home there's a $20 flat fee plus a fee of 20¢ a square foot. Council is proposing to increase the flat fee to $50 but keep the other rate the same. It decided against changing the sliding rate to the home's assessment value; nor will it charge more if the house is two storeys. The fee will remain based on the house's "footprint" on the property to determine square footage.

Compliance letter fees will increase from $25 to $50; most other municipalities' fees are already $50 or $75. Filling out a compliance form often requires a site inspection so "you're using up $25 pretty quickly," Rogers said.

The one rate council doesn't plan to change is that for plumbing inspections.

The maximum any permit will increase will be by $30.

Council is motivated to make the changes not only to bring the municipality up to par with its neighbours, but also to make the department pay for itself. Last year, fees garnered $22,000, which requires the department to rely in part on tax dollars.

Fairgrounds

Council would like the Haliburton County Fair Board to clarify whether a request for funding will be used to repair an existing building, or whether it wants to build something new.

Meanwhile, the municipality's planning committee is supporting the board's request of using a portion of the fairgrounds for campground sites during the fair. Issues to be addressed include the location of sites, the ability to provide potable water and the provision of washroom and shower facilities at the ball diamonds.

Committee reports

More volunteers are needed for the Canada Day festivities. To help make sure that people get a chance to enjoy all events, organizers are hoping to "shorten" the day – running most events in a shorter time span.

Gord Graham has been appointed to the Minden County Town Museum board. "He's already been conscripted to do an amazing amount of work on these buildings," Anthon smiled.

Truck damage

Money will be taken out of a reserve account to pay for the damage caused when "a little deer had the audacity to take on one of our trucks," Deputy-reeve Gerry Rome said. The damage is less than the municipality's $2,500 insurance deductible.

ROMA news

At a recent conference of the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association, some politicians expressed concerns that staff would be using upgraded computers for such things as playing games. Anthon worried that the opposite might be true – staff don't have enough time to fully explore their computer's full capabilities.

Council supported a ROMA motion asking the province to allow for "a legitimate discussion" about the provincial ban on Dombind. Many municipalities question the scientific data which was used to ban the inexpensive dust suppressant and are frustrated by the province's unwillingness to provide all the research which led up to the ban.

"I think the case for issuing the information is real," Anthon said.

Councillors congratulated Anthon on being named ROMA's second vice-president. "I'm hoping," Anthon said, "that it won't interfere with my community work, which is still the most important to me."

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Soyers Lakers want water removal tied to lake levels

From page 1

Appeal Board.

The board is expected to decide whether to call a hearing in less than three weeks.

"We're not trying to be lunatic about this and scream and carry on. We're just saying we should look at the agreement more closely and monitor what happens when the water is removed," said association president David Pengelly.

The association contends taking so much water from Little Soyers Lake could drop its level by more than 50 centimetres and dry up the creek that connects it to Soyers Lake.

If that were to happen, the principal source of water flowing into Soyers Lake would be cut off, dropping its water level, said Pengelly.

Not only would 180 seasonal and permanent properties be affected, but also there could be serious environmental consequences, the association maintains.

Removing large amounts of water from Little Soyers Lake would dry out the wetlands along the creek that joins its to Soyers Lake, said Pengelly.

The association is also concerned runoff from the proposed golf courses, which could carry chemical fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides, would become even more concentrated if there is less water in Little Soyers Lake to dilute it.

Rather than a blanket agreement for 25 years, the association argues the amount of water Woodland Ranch is permitted to take from the lake should be reduced under dry conditions.

The association would also like to see the amount of water drawn from Little Soyers tied to monthly average lake levels of Soyers Lake and flow in the creek that connects the two. It wants the Ministry to consider phosphorus levels in the creek, as well.

The association is calling on the Ministry to issue Woodland Ranch a permit for just five years, with renewal conditional to further approval from the Ministry and consultation with affected municipalities and the association.

In addition to their concerns about the conditions of the permit itself, Pengelly said association members are upset the Environment Ministry didn't directly notify or consult nearby property owners before granting Woodland Ranch power to draw large amounts of water from Little Soyers Lake.

The Ministry didn't advertise notice of Woodland Ranch's permit application in local newspapers.

It did post notice of the application on the internet on Dec. 10, 1998, via a website for the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry.

But unless a person is aware of the registry and has the proper internet address, it would be very difficult for them to learn of the application.

Despite 15 years experience using the internet, Pengelly said he couldn't come up with any information about the permit application using search terms such as "Woodlands Ranch," Soyers Lake" or Little Soyers Lake."

"The Environmental Bill of Rights Registry is all fine, but it's not what you would call accessible," he said.

Once the association was given the proper internet address, it was able to find out about the application and submit its appeal Feb. 3, just hours before the deadline for appeals closed.

Anson, Hindon and Minden council has agreed to write a letter of support of the association's appeal hearing request. However, councillors aren't asking to speak at the hearing because they don't feel they have the time or expertise to properly make a submission.

"Their request is reasonable," reeve Jeanne Anthon said at a council meeting Thursday. "They want monitoring and a review after five years. They're not asking that it be stopped."

Anthon said council isn't trying to mandate what happens on Little Soyers Lake — which is located in neighbouring Dysart et al — but expressing concerns on behalf of Minden ratepayers with property on Soyers Lake.

Woodland Ranch representatives met with Minden councillors in mid-December after the ranch had applied to draw water from Little Soyers, but didn't inform council of their permit request.

"I don't think they were fair with us in terms of information," Anthon said, in light of the water permit.

Like the Soyers Lake Ratepayers' association, the municipality wasn't notified of the permit request by the Environment Ministry, either.

Anthon told councillors she spoke with a Ministry official in Kingston who was mystified by the lack of consultation.

"The Kingston official doesn't understand how it went so far without a public process. He said this is very unusual."

The Echo was unable to reach Woodland Ranch part-owner Donovan Palmer for comment.

FLIPPING OVER WINTER-FEST:

With so many Winterfest activities to keep them busy during the day, snowmobilers were glad to fill up on pancakes on Saturday morning. Here, Haliburton Lions Perry Morrison and Christine Horton keep busy filling the plates of hot pancakes and sausage.

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Y2K bug may not pack big sting for small townships

PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed at Stanhope council's meeting on Wednesday.

Council has struck a new committee to assess potential problems the Y2K computer bug may cause for the municipality as the year 2000 approaches.

"We're reasonably fortunate here, even compared to Haliburton or Minden, because we don't have sewage systems of water systems to worry about," said reeve Eleanor Harrison.

However, it's still important for the municipality to determine what problems it may face in order to budget properly to resolve them, she said.

Clerk administrator Gerald Bain, who recently attended a Y2K workshop, recommended that the municipality update its emergency plan in some areas to be better prepared for problems.

Bain said Bell Canada and Ontario Hydro representatives at the workshop said they're confident they've taken necessary precautions to prevent system failures when the calendar changes.

Millennium projects

Councillors are looking for project ideas that may qualify for millennium funding through an Industry Ontario grant program.

The municipality may be eligible for a grant of $1,000 through the program.

Bain said he first thought of the Hawk Lake log chute which is need of repairs. However, $1,000 wouldn't go far toward upgrading the chute, considering repairs are estimated at about $75,000.

Creating a new hiking trail to mark the new millennium may be the best option, suggested Harrison.

Stanhope's heritage museum might also be able to think of a use for the funding, said deputy-reeve Murray Daniels.

Each of council's committees will come up with project proposals and councillors will decide on one of them at their meeting next month.

The deadline for funding applications is the end of March.

Dog ban rejected

After a number of savage dog attacks recently, the town of Tillsonburg in Southern Ontario is pressuring the province to give municipalities power to ban certain dog breeds within their borders, including rotweillers and pit bulls.

Stanhope Council Briefs

Tillsonburg is seeking the support of all municipalities across the province.

But Stanhope councillors decided not to back the dog ban request.

"I don't know how you can pick out one breed of dog and regulate them," said deputy-reeve Daniels.

Dogs of all breeds can be dangerous, he said.

Daniels told councillors his own son was attacked by the family's pet golden lab and would likely have been killed had his wife not been able to intervene.

Seniors donate

Municipalities are often asked for donations by community groups, but a club in Stanhope decided to turn the situation around.

The Stanhope Seniors' Social Club gave the municipality an unconditional donation of $1,200 in return for the ongoing support it receives.

Council has yet to decide how the money will be spent, but Harrison suggested it would be fitting to spend it on something that will benefit seniors in the community.

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But even the best minds are no match for the little games played by Mother Nature.

Running through the thoughts of Winterfest's organizers on Thursday night, as the rains came pouring down, was that the event would be one, big wash. They could only listen to the rain, knowing what it was doing to the ice on Head Lake, where most of the events were to take place.

echo **editorial**

martha perkins

But as the human brain evolves (and ages), it learns two important things: you can save yourself a lot of heartache by not worrying about the things you can't change, such as the weather, yet at the same time, where there's a will, there's a way to get around those very same things.

In the end, Mother Nature took mercy on Winterfest and produced a nice, chilly evening on Friday but only after a group of volunteers spent the entire day trying to cope with all the watery snow covering the radar run. By drilling holes in the ice, the volunteers could watch the water return to the frigid lake underneath, leaving a nice, clean surface to freeze over in time for Saturday morning.

Watching the volunteers on Friday and the participants on Saturday, one is reminded yet again that the villages in Haliburton County would be hard pressed to come out of economic hibernation in the winter months were it not for the people who work so hard to organize and run special events. Our merchants need the influx of visitors and local supporters on special weekends such as the dog sled derby in Minden, Winterfest in Haliburton and this weekend's Snowball '99 in Dorset. With snowbirds flocking to the south and many people on reduced incomes in the winter, keeping business doors open after Christmas can sometimes be a strain.

Thanks again to all those who help ensure that those doors aren't closed.

Winning results

The Echo has just learned it has placed in the top three of four award categories sponsored annually by the Ontario Community Newspaper Association. Our ranking – first, second or third – will be announced at the OCNA's conference in March. The awards were in the following categories:

- Overall excellence for newspapers with a circulation of 3,500 to 6,500. The Gananoque Reporter and Huntsville Forester are the other finalists.
- Citizenship and Culture, for Martha Perkins' feature on suicide prevention.
- Best Special Section for our Fall Tour. The other finalists are Kincardine News and Tillsonburg News
- Original Ad Idea - Demi/Pony Tab for our Summer Guide. Other finalists are the Barrie Advance and the Oakville Beaver.

Winter's mantle *by Len Pizzey*

letters **to the editor**

Bear hunt ban 'just the start'

To the Editor:

The spring hunt ban is not a bear hunting issue. This is about our rights to continue to hunt, fish and trap. The next thing that is going to be taken away is our hunting hounds. Everything else will be targetted one by one until it's all gone. Then they will take away our guns. They took away the spring bear hunt without any warning because they were pressured into it by organized people with false information. It was the way they did it that scares us.

There are many educated, well-spoken, truthful people out there who are more than capable to help organize and run an alliance group to protect the rights of hunters, fishermen and trappers. (They proved this at the Sunday, January 31 meeting in Lindsay.) But they need everybody's help. If you can't get involved, send a donation to the cause.

We are sending $100 and challenge every hunt camp to get their guys and gals together and do the same. This is not time to be cheap. Don't stand back and do nothing.

The Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association has information and has also set up a trust fund to be forwarded to our alliance (Ontario's) for hunting, fishing and trapping once it is in operation: Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association, Box 184, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0. Make sure you write on your cheque saying where it is to go.

Another group that could use money is the Alberta Fish and Game Association, 9624-104 Str., Edmonton, Alberta T6H 2L7. It is challenging the gun law. They need around $115,000 for court and legal fees. If every hunter in Canada spent a couple of dollars each, they would have more than enough.

Get involved, do what you can, read up on it. You don't have an opinion until you know all the facts. This goes for both sides.

Terry and Liz Cowen,
Haliburton

Guns could be next now that bear hunt is gone

To the Editor:

We should save our tears for later, for if we think the banning of the spring hunt for bears is bad, that's no comparison to what is yet to come.

I'm not talking about a further ban, or more restrictions on hunting. Yes, I know the banning of the spring bear hunt is going to hurt the people who depend on this to put a few extra dollars in their pockets. However, don't start crying yet, as for now we will have a fall bear hunt, also the deer hunt. And will continue to hunt for a few more years yet.

But the time is coming when we can no longer hunt, and that time is when it will be illegal to buy or have in our possession any firearms of any kind. And when that time comes, it won't matter if there is a hunting season or not.

Yes I know, we keep telling ourselves that this will never happen in Canada. It doesn't matter what we tell ourselves, that time is coming, and all our crying won't do any good, as that first step has already started back in December the first of

See **More restrictions** *page 7*

your **letters**

The Echo welcomes Letters to the Editor.

Submissions must be signed, dated, and include a telephone number of verification.

The Echo resverves the right to edit submissions for taste, legality and brevity.

Mail your letters to:
The Editor
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publisher **LEN PIZZEY** *editor* **MARTHA PERKINS** *advertising manager* **LES FEERO** *Echo* **457-1037** *Fax* **457-3275**

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E MAIL: editorial@haliburtonecho. on. ca.

Len Pizzey, Publisher
Martha Perkins, Editor
Sandra Bishop, Accounting
Les Feero, Advertising manager
Sue Nicholson, Advertising sales
Peter Downs, Reporter
Jamie Woodman, Sandi Luck, Graphic artists. Advertising production
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Walking on water

down our **road**

sharon lynch

IT WAS A TRICK OF light. Mary knew this, even while she felt the funny little tingle up her back. Sitting at the kitchen table on a wintry Saturday, she caught sight of the frozen lake between two balsams. And for a second, she could have sworn she was looking at water, not ice. The reflected sky, the angle of sunlight, maybe even the air itself, combined to create this illusion of a summer sight in February. Thoughts of diving from her dock, paddling along the shoreline and lazing face down on a float, hands trailing through soft eddies, quickly filled her head.

None of that now, she thought, ruefully eating her sandwich. Now, instead of going into the lake, she stayed on top, touching it but going no further. There were really two lakes, Mary decided. One was deep and rich with life, ready for exploration, capable of concealment. The other lake kept her at a distance, but it had its own fascinating qualities none-the-less.

This second lake, the enormous body locked beneath the concrete-like surface, was no less a living, churning thing. It moaned and groaned to her on cold nights, cracking sounds echoing down its length. There were heaves in unexpected places, like the backbone of some creature struggling to be free of its frozen prison. When Mary walked on the lake and came across a spot where the snow had been blown away, she could see cracks far below her. She knew the lake was not a stagnant, sleeping giant in the winter months. It was only waiting.

In the winter, the lake waited for the inevitable fools. These were the ones who failed to learn of its danger and perished. Some broke through into the cold depths and were helpless in the face of its cold power. Others taunted these powers, skipping the lake's open spaces, or speeding faster than they could ever avoid a surprising change on the sleeping monster's surface. Many of these also perished. And when it was all over, the broken shapes, the desperate cries, the ice reformed and made itself smooth again as though nothing had happened.

The lake had been there a very long time. People had always moved across it in the winter. They walked on foot, snowshoes, and skies, the sun sparkling off snow and ice in a blinding dazzle or moonlight laying its cold glow from shore to shore. Snowmobiles and sometimes even trucks skidded and streamed across and down and over this enormous slab of ice. Deer leisurely picked their way along familiar pathways, or galloped like a strung-out necklace, in haste and perhaps fear. Wolves killed and ate and howled on the ice. Children skated; dogs ran wildly.

Still the lake waited. It waited for the sun to warm, so that it might begin to thin and pull away from its edges. It waited for its pristine white to darken and streak, until it looked like porous old bone about to break. One day, the ice was gone, the water sloshing across the floating refuse of spring run off. And still the lake waited. It waited for the loons to return, and the shade along its shores to thicken and spread. It waited for soft breezes to ruffle its surface, gently stirring the tiny creatures that walked over it and the larger ones moving around and under it.

But it was not through waiting. After waiting for the coloured leaves to drop then float in flotillas wherever the wind directed, it waited for the loons to leave, their final lonely calls reaching across the open spaces. It waited for winter, for people to come and walk upon its strong, white body and marvel at its beauty and endurance.

pic *of the* past

MAPLE LEAF GARDENS has been big news this past week as fans and former hockey players gathered for the last game at the Carlton Street institution. Well, The Echo has its own piece of Gardens nostalgia to share. In 1947, the best players from Ontario Hockey Association teams gathered at centre ice for a match between "the east and the west." Foster Hewitt provided the running commentary on the game, which saw the east emerge victorious. One of the players for the east's all-Star game was Haliburton's own Joe Iles, who still remembers with pride his moment of fame at the Gardens. In this photo of the east's team, he's in the second row, second from the left. To the right of him is his defence partner, Jack Davison, who later helped design the PineStone golf course and became its golf pro in the days of Wren Blair and Jim Gregory. Davison was also assistant general manager of the Chicago Black Hawks. The men in suits are manager Frank Buckland of Peterborough and coach Bucko MacDonald. Joe Iles also notes that playing for the west's team was Ken Wilson, then representing Elora and Leamington, and now a Haliburton resident. Sadly for other young all-star hopefuls, 1947 was the only year the program was offered.

Vote re-affirms future Kawartha Conservation

To the Editor:

On February 11, a meeting was held to decide the future of Kawartha Conservation, pursuant to resolutions by the Townships of Manvers, Bobcaygeon and Omemee calling for its dissolution.

An overflow crowd of the citizens of Victoria County and Durham Region packed the Moose Hall in Lindsay so that concerns about this important issue could be expressed. At the end of an evening of vigorous and spirited discussion the motion to dissolve was soundly defeated, with only one vote in favour by the representative from Omemee, who clearly was uncomfortable supporting dissolution, but felt he had to represent the decision of his council.

This meeting was a town hall meeting in the true spirit of those early assemblies which original settlers in our area used to resolve disputes. The meeting was civil, there was ample opportunity for opposing forces to express their viewpoints and the chair of the meeting ensured that everything was conducted in a polite and courtly fashion.

I would like to express my appreciation to all the elected officials who spent a long evening debating this resolution, but most of all to the wonderful citizens of our watershed who came out to be heard on such an important issue. Democracy was well served and I was proud to be a part of it.

Let us all now get on with the task of protecting our natural resources so that we can continue to enjoy the benefits of living in a truly blessed part of the world.

David M. Gascoigne,
Chair, Friends of
Kawartha Conservation

More restrictions coming: Hunters

From page 6

last year.

We should not complain too much about the banning of the spring bear hunt, as for now we still have our guns, and still can hunt even so it may not be as much as we would like to.

Frank C. Baumhour,
Tory Hill

Winterfest volunteers save the day

To the Editor:

It was 7 a.m. Friday morning and I thought all was lost. With the help of some great volunteers on Wednesday we had erected our fence for our annual Winterfest Radar Runs. Then Friday came and all of our fence was down and in almost a foot of water. You can imagine my thoughts.

The temperature changed from +7 to -2 in a very short time and it began to snow heavily. I wasn't sure whether this was good or bad.

As I surveyed the damage, people and trucks appeared and may faith was restored. It was a very tough and wet day for all as these people can attest.

Through the selflessness and support of these few people, the fence was restored and our track survived.

I owe a great deal of gratitude to these volunteers and their spouses, Nathan Petrini, Mike Bryson, Brian Nicholson, Bob Bryant, Mike Fimeo, Scott Doan and Keith Foster. Thanks guys.

Les Feero,
Haliburton

(P.S. Thanks for the auger, Norm.)

Boonieville by Charlie Teljeur

Winterfest '99 draws crowds to Head Lake

WINTERFEST CROWDS:
Hundreds of snowmobilers arrived in Haliburton on Saturday to take part in the fun of Winterfest '99. The day began with a pancake breakfast and ended with two local dances. In between, sledders tested their speed on the radra run or headed out for a liesurely ride along the Poker Run route.

READY TO RUN:
Larry Van Dyck of the Ontario Snowmobile Racing Federation sends a participant down the quarter mile long radar run track on Head Lake.

TAKING PART IN THE FUN:
These youngsters were bundled up and ready for a day of snowmobiling fun at Winterfest.

CHAINSAW ART:
Local chainsaw artist Andre Gagnon carves a a ball inside a frame out of a single length of log. His demonstration was co sponsored by Husqvarna chainsaws and Emmerson Rent-all in Haliburton.

Fresh snow and sunny skies made for a terrific day in the Highlands

THE WAY IT WAS:
Dan Drack and members of the Otonabee Oldtimers Snowmobile Club attended this year's Winterfest with over 15 sleds from yesteryear.

Winterfest Radar Run results:

ATS - 440 (four entries): Karen Crofts, Polaris - first, 77.5 mph; J. Rudd, Polaris - second, 76.9 mph; Brandon Cavill - third, 76.7 mph.

ATS - 500 (one entry): Sonya Smith, Yamaha - first, 79.7 mph.

ATS - 600 S (two entries): Tyson Doucett, Ski-doo - first, 91.5 mph; Adam Wilson, Ski-doo - second, 69.0 mph.

ATS - 600 (four entries): M. Fimo, Polaris - first, 99.6 mph; Frank Boehm, Ski-doo - second, 95.4 mph; Scott Danilko, Arctic Cat - third, 91.5 mph.

ATS - 700S (four entries): Tim Wood, Polaris - first, 99.3 mph; Doug MacPherson, Arctic Cat - second, 95.1 mph; Mark Flegal - third, 92.4 mph.

ATS - 700 (eight entries): Irwin Driedger, Yamaha - first, 104.2 mph; Steve Hirsh, Ski-doo - second, 99.9 mph; D. Mahood, Ski-doo - third, 99.6 mph.

ATS - 800 (six entries): Tom Nisula, Arctic Cat - first, 108.4 mph; Steve MacKenzie, Yamaha - second, 105.7 mph; J. Principato, Arctic Cat - third, 105.1 mph.

ATS - 1000 (six entries): Dan Ellison, Arctic Cat - first, 107.2 mph; Tom Nisula, Arctic Cat - second, 106.9 mph; Mike Chantler, Arctic Cat - third, 106.1.

IS - 600 (one entry): Bill Burton, Arctic Cat - first, 88.6 mph.

IS - 700 (eight entries): Ike Maier, Yamaha - first, 106.5 mph; Mark Shephard, Arctic Cat - second, 102.0 mph; Pat Gagliano, Polaris - third, 101.7 mph.

IS - 800 (ten entries): Mel Ellis, Polaris - first, 113.5 mph; Geoff Bunn, Ski-doo - second, 112.2 mph; Joe Principato, Arctic Cat - third, 111.3 mph.

IS - 1000 (five entries): Joe Principato, Arctic Cat - first, 126.2 mph; Tom Hamilton - second, 116.2 mph; Al Thompson (Pickering Marine), Arctic Cat - third, 110.9 mph.

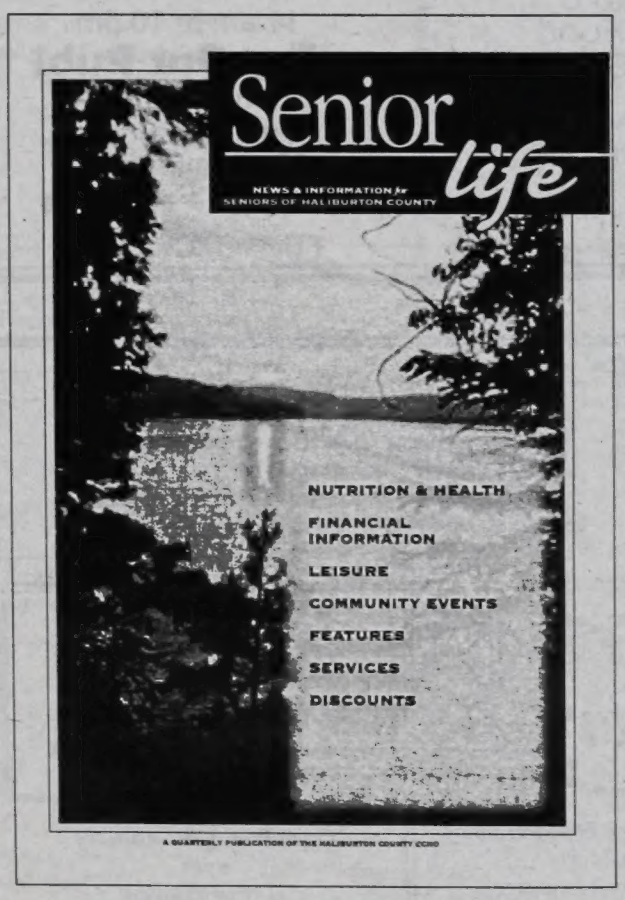
LAKE RACER (five entries)P Charlie Primmer, Arctic Cat - first, 132.0 mph; Tobin Taylor, Polaris - second, 126.2 mph; Bob Switzer, Arctic Cat - third, 110.9 mph.

PRO STOCK (one entry): Rob Rhodes, Arctic Cat - first, 102.0 mph.

OPEN FUEL (three entries): Charlie Primmer, Arctic Cat - first, 127.8 mph; Al Thompson, Arctic Cat - second, 125.1 mph; Doug Barclay, Ski-doo - third, 118.5 mph.

POKER RUN WINNER: Winner of the Winterfest Poker Run's new 9.9 hp Mercury outboard sponsored by Brysons Marine and Mercury was Lisa Mercer, centre, of Minden, shown here with Mike and Glenda Bryson of Brysons Marine

LOTS OF CASH: Penny Perrin of Haliburton won $515 in the Winterfest 50/50 draw. Presenting the cash is Winterfest chairman Les Feero.



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Student skiers post great results at Kawartha meet

■ *HHSS midget boys' team takes gold medal*

cross-country skiing

nordic notes

Blake Paton

When approached competitively, skiing is a tough sport, both mentally and physically. It demands self-discipline, mental toughness and a commitment to improve. When those elements are there the results soon follow, as they did last week.

Local skiers took part in racing action on the trails at Glebe Park on February 10th, and these young racers earned some remarkable results in their competition against Kawartha District school-age skiers.

The Midget Boys team of Matt Hindman, Ryan Hutson, Steve Johnson, and Chris Jung brought home a team gold with their impressive 1,2,3,4 finish. This is the strongest group showing from HHSS skiers in some time, and hopefully this indicates good things to come from this team.

In the Midget Girls category Tina Costeloe and Kate Foulds were 2nd and 5th, respectively, although they are still looking for some team mates to round out the team results.

In the Junior Girls' category Carrie Heyes and Liz Brown lead their team to first place with their 2nd and 5th place results, while Ainsley Heyes and Steph Ratz paced their team to second with identical results.

The Senior Boys team, consisting of Ryan O'Neill, Brock Ladaurantaye, Daniel Morgan and Adam Bathe took third place overall.

Finally, several elementary school skiers from J.D.H.E.S. in Haliburton participated in their first Kawartha District races ever, so congratulations go to all of those athletes, including Conrad Flatman, Miles Nicholson, Reuben Maughan, Ryan Bottum, Kyle Thompson, Erica Fearrey, Abbey Hagerman and others.

It has been a pleasure to watch these youngsters progress from children who shuffle along into promising athletes who show power and confidence on skis. Congratulations to you all.

Sure, competition hurts the body, but not meeting your personal goals causes a mental anguish that is far worse, especially when you can't blame a loss on a team-mate or the equipment. In this way, skiing requires more courage than many other sports.

Finally, good luck to all participants in the Keskinada Loppet in Ottawa on Feb 20 and 21. Many local athletes are testing themselves against the 25 and 50 km courses again this year, so may you all have fast skis!

On Wednesday, HHSS hosted the Kawartha District cross country ski championships at Glebe Park to see who will compete in the COSSA races to be held here this week. Above, timer Sharon Dibblee tells HHSS's Carrie Heyes to get ready while below, team members from JDHES cross the finish line in separate races.

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High-scoring Husky Major Tykes win B championship

SHERRY MULLHOLLAND

Husky Major Tykes

The Husky Major Tykes journeyed to Baysville on February 13 to participate in a tournament.

Haliburton faced Huntsville Tim Horton's for their first game, coming out on the losing end, but putting out a good effort. Adam vanNood played goal, turning aside many strong shots. Final score was 8 - 4.

The Huskies faced Humphrey in the second game, playing a great game and giving Curtis Nichol the shutout. Final score, 17 - 0.

This win put the Huskies in the B final against the Bracebridge Bears. Again, Curtis Nichol earned the shutout and the Huskies came out on top with a score of 8 - 0, taking the B Championship.

The defensive plays of Gavin Barker, Jordan Roberts, Adam vanNood and Curtis Nichol did a great job of shutting down the opponents, allowing few shots to get by them. Earning assists during the tournament were Luke Watson, Brett Yavis, Steven Jacobs, Jake Palmer, Craig Mulholland, Brady Yavis, Gavin Barker, Jordan Roberts and Adam vanNood.

Scoring for the Huskies was done by Jake Palmer, Luke Watson, Brady Yavis, Craig Mulholland, Steven Jacobs and Brett Yavis. Once the early morning jitters were cleared away, the team played great together.

The next morning, the Huskies opened their playoff round-robin by hosting Fenelon Falls. With Bobcaygeon and Fenelon Falls ranked as one and two in the division, the boys knew they would be in tough to even keep the game close. The Huskies put Curtis Nichol in to guard the net, facing many promising shots, only to turn away all but three of them.

Fenelon Falls opened the scoring midway through the first, but the Huskies answered back quickly when Adam vanNood passed it to Craig Mulholland who in turn moved it up to Daniel Sisson, allowing him to put it over the goalie and into the net.

The second period saw end-to-end action with no scoring, but great saves.

The third had Fenelon take the lead early. But again, the Huskies bounced back to tie it up on an unassisted goal by Jake Palmer. Haliburton took the lead late in the third when Craig Mulholland gave a defensive zone pass to Daniel Sisson who deposited it past the Fenelon Falls goalie. A late scramble in front of Haliburton's net allowed Fenelon to push the puck into Haliburton's goal to tie the game with two seconds left to play.

The game ended in a tie, giving each team one point towards their overall playoff total. Haliburton played well but will have to make things a little tighter for the rest of the playoffs if they wish to move on to the final round.

OMHA Novices score OT win

LAURIE SMITH

OMHA Novice Huskles

On Sunday, the OMHA Novice Huskies played an exciting match at home against Millbrook in the continuation of the first round of playoffs. In the previous two games, the Huskies took reasonably easy wins and weren't prepared for the Stars to come back fighting. Before the fans were even settled in their seats, Millbrook was ahead by two goals. But, by the end of the first period, Haliburton had the score tied.

The second period remained scoreless up to the fifteen second mark when Millbrook took the lead once again.

Early in the third period, the Huskies not only scored the tying point but took the lead goal for the first time in the game. Millbrook quickly answered back to end regulation time in a draw. On to the dreaded overtime.

More than half the overtime period passed with each team alternating unsuccessful shots on their opponent's net. Finally, a clever setup by the Huskies proved to be the winner edging Millbrook, 5 - 4. Thanks to the excellent effort by the entire Husky squad, Haliburton now advances to the second round after eliminating Millbrook. Details of the second round to follow.

Bantam OMHA Huskies finish great season

MIKE CARPENTER

Bantam OMHA Huskies

Last week I ended my column with a good luck wish to the Trillium Sheet Metal/Haliburton Lumber Bantam OMHA team.

The Bantam Huskies lost the deciding game in the first round of playoffs by a score of 2 - 0 in Millbrook. They could have used some of that luck as they certainly had scoring chances but could not capitalize on them.

The boys had a great season and would like to thank the coaches, Floyd Henry, Ernie Bain, Gary Burtch and Rod Roberts, for their time and hard work.

See you next year.

Undefeated Husky Mites ready for play-off season

MICHELLE LEROUX

Husky Mites

The Haliburton/Roberts Marina Mites played their last regular season game on Saturday, February 13 against the Mariposa Lightning.

The game was close and hard fought. The first period saw Mariposa open with a goal but Haliburton was there to answer with one.

It was a tight game all the way through the second period, with Haliburton ahead by two.

The third period saw Paxton Leroux come alive and score four in a row to put Haliburton ahead 8 to 3. Chris Judge scored two with help from Joe Ferracuti and Brandon Yake. Mark Vasey and Paxton each scored one in the first period with assists going to Ben Palmer, Ian Bottum and Carson Roberts.

This amazing team has finished its season undefeated with an unbelievable record of only 10 goals scored against them in 11 games.

Many thanks to their coach Ron Yake, for not only being their coach but being the team's spokesperson. Additional thanks to Ted Vasey for being "on ice" and to the "guys on the bench", Steve Ferracuti and Norm Bottum.

We've had a tremendous season so far but it's not over yet!

UNDEFEATED: Haliburton's Husky Mites beat Mariposa 8-3 Saturday to keep their undefeated string alive for the entire regular season.

HIGH-SCORING HUSKIES: The Husky Mites came alive in the third period Saturday scoting four goals to put the game out of reach for Mariposa.

Monarch win earns Atom B Huskies championship berth

DAN MacMillan

Atom B Huskies

On February 11, the Roberts Austin/Hockey Haven Atom B Huskies travelled to Minden to resume their playoff series.

Down three games to none, the Monarchs were facing elimination. There was no scoring in the first period as both teams stuck to each other like glue.

The Huskies have dominated this series so it was to a lot of people's surprise when the Monarchs scored first about halfway through the second period. This woke the Huskies up. They realized that if Minden can score on them then Minden could beat them.

Haliburton reverted to one of their old tricks. With one minute left in the second period the Huskies scored two quick back-to-back goals. The first by Dylan Metcalfe was unassisted, the second by Kevin Crofts was set up by Jamie Timbers and Jenny Perrott.

Up 2 to 1 the Husky defense kicked in, only this time we saw a new wrinkle. Led by Jenny, the rear corps made up of Jeff Burk, Connor MacMillan and Jamie, took turns rushing the puck up the ice into the Monarchs' end. When Minden did muster an offensive threat, Adam Trueman carried off grand larceny in net.

With about two-and-a-half minutes left in the game Dylan put it out of reach when he scored from Kevin and James Jowett. The final was 3 to 1 for Haliburton and they have earned themselves a berth in the championship final round. The kids have worked very hard and definitely deserve to be in it.

I wish I could tell you when the Roberts Austin/Hockey Haven Atom B's next game is but I can't. There are three teams playing off to see who'll meet the Huskies. I suggest you watch the Echo to see when our next game is.

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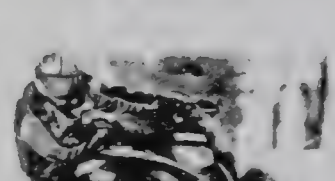

Location:
Haliburton Forest & Wild Life Base Camp - 754-2198
Starting time: Between 9:00am - 2:00pm
Registration & Trail fee: $30. per person

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Novice B Huskies open play-offs with tie

ELAINE SCHMID

Novice B Huskies

Saturday's opening game of Novice B playoffs pitted the ReMax/Hockey Haven Huskies against the Minden Monarchs in exciting game action on home ice.

Lane "the train" Schmid was between the pipes for the Huskies with defensive guards Nathan Woodcock, Scott Griffith, Robert Lowes and J.L. Frybort keeping the shots to a minimum. With forwards Steven Miscio, Nelson Evans, Mac Trueman, Jesse Stoughton, Cole Scheffee, and Daniel Sisson putting on the offensive pressure, this game was certainly entertaining.

Haliburton dominated the first period with several attempts on the Monarch net, to take the lead with a goal by Jesse Stoughton, assisted by Daniel Sisson. The Monarchs came back to tie it up moments later.

Second period was evenly played as both teams went end to end, and with almost four minutes left, the Huskies took the lead.

Third period was brisk, as Minden put on the pressure, taking two very quick back-to-back goals to gain the lead. The Huskies' Jesse Stoughton, assisted by Daniel Sisson and Cole Scheffee, tied it up. Steven Miscio, assisted by Mac Trueman, put the Huskies ahead less than a minute later, but this lead was short-lived as the Monarchs came back 14 seconds later to end the game in a 4 - 4 tie. A well-played game with good effort by both teams.

On Sunday, Cannington came to town to take on the Huskies for the first time. The Huskies were on fire with Nathan "Cujo" Woodcock in goal for the Huskies and defensive lines Schmid and Sisson, Lowes and Frybort holding the opposition to minimal scoring possibilities. The forwards Cole Scheffee, Jesse Stoughton, Scott Griffith, Mac Trueman, Steven Miscio and Nelson Evans, worked hard managing several shots on the opposition, whose goaltending was awesome.

Cannington was first on the scoreboard but the Huskies evened the score just into the second period with a super play from Jesse Stoughton to Scott Griffith to Cole Scheffee who sent it home.

The opponents again went ahead just seconds later. Undaunted, the line of Scheffee, Griffin and Stoughton tied it up once more, when Scotty sent a fly puck through the air into the Cannington net.

At this point, it could have been either team's game as they proved to be competitively matched.

The mighty Huskies put on the pressure to net two more goals in the third by Steven Miscio on a pass from Mac Trueman and Jesse Stoughton, unassisted.

With the effort these boys put forth today, we ought all be proud of our children. Cannington demonstrated a lot of class as they cheered the Huskies who won 4 - 2.

Next game in Mariposa is Thursday night. Come on down and cheer your home boys on.

Haliburton minor hockey Tri-county hockey home game play-offs

Feb. 19, 8 p.m.
Bantam B vs.Fenelon Falls
Feb. 20, 3 p.m.
Tykes vs. Minden
Feb. 21, 10:30 a.m.
Tykes vs. Ops
Feb. 21, 4:15 p.m.
(If needed)
Atom B vs. Minden
Feb. 26, 8 p.m.
Bantam B vs. Sutton 1
Feb. 28, 10:30 a.m.
Tykes vs. Bobcaygeon
Feb. 28, 11:30 a.m.
Novice B vs. Mariposa

fitness tips

body rhythms

— *Lisa Box-Warburton*

Fit Tip

More ways to cut fat without losing taste

1. Butter toast with fruit-only jams instead of butter or margarine.
2. Sauté meat and vegetables in chicken broth or wine.
3. Use non-fat or low fat dairy products.
4. Always remove skin from meat.
5. Spread sandwiches with Grey Poupon mustard or low cal dressings.
6. Take your own popcorn to show.
7. Use evaporated milk in place of cream or half and half.

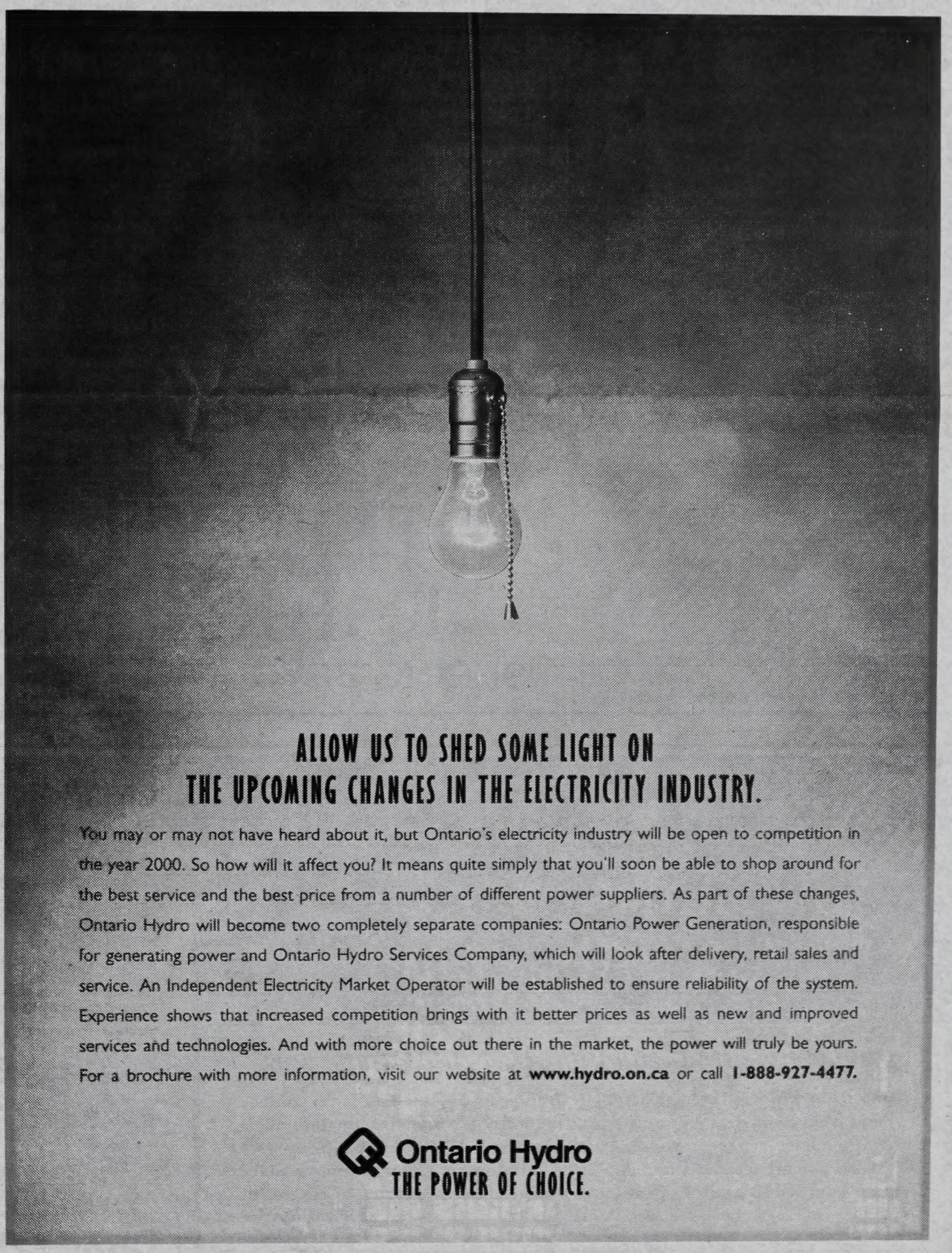
If you can just cut your fat in little ways before you know it you have cut half the fat you eat. It's good for your heart and your hips.

Recipe: High Protein Lunch

1 can tuna
1/2 container non-fat cottage cheese
1 tsp. chives (dried)
pinch sea salt and pepper

Mix together and spread on multi grain or whole wheat bread.

Keep leftovers in container in fridge, no longer than two days.



Snowcross racers reach podium

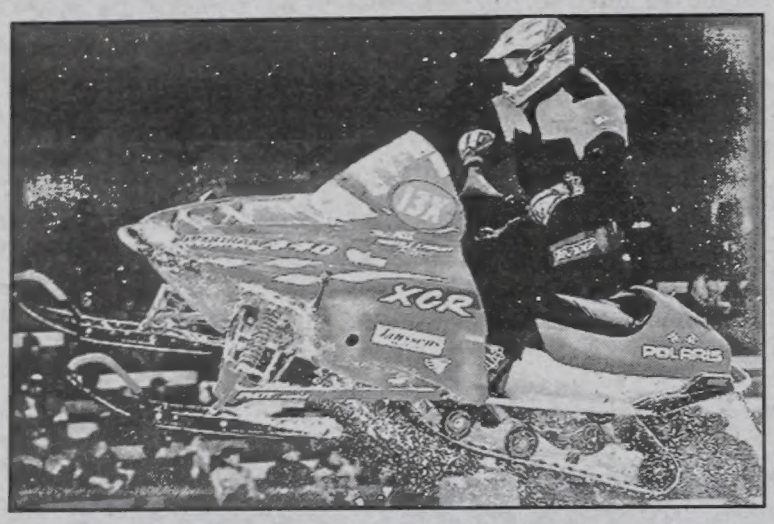
■ *Minden's Lester brothers continue to dominate*

The Barrie Raceway was home to the Snap-On Tools Super Snowcross last weekend. Huge crowds of spectators and a large field of drivers from the US and Canada put on a spectacular show over the three days of racing.

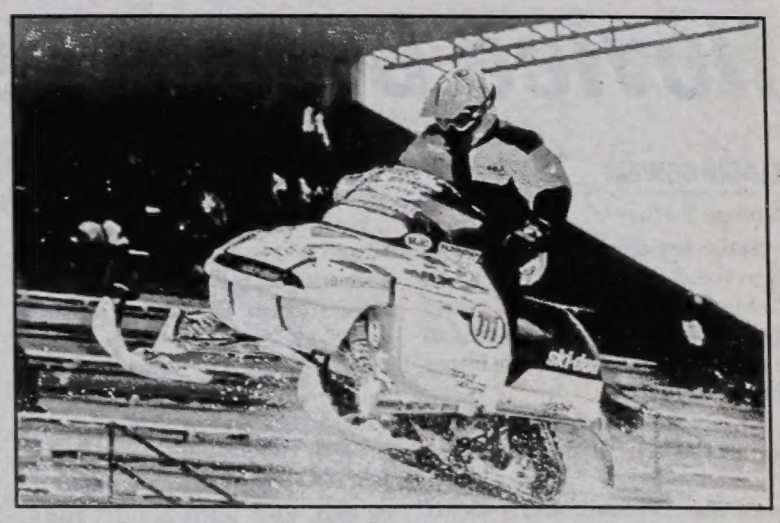
A.J. Lester, riding his Prentice Powersports of Minden MXZX 440 Ski-doo, leapt into the lead in Saturday's Junior Class (14 - 17 years), qualifying first using holeshot power and fine tuning supplied by his mechanic, former Watercross Champion Steve Charity.

In Saturday's final, A.J. kept the throttle wide open on the incredibly fast back straightaway and left 14 other riders behind all the way to the checkers.

In Sunday's qualifier, A.J. again launched hard and stayed out front to win and transfer to the final. When the green flag dropped on Sunday's final, A.J. went handlebar to handlebar with two other sleds into the first turn and came out in the lead. A.J. held onto first until a last lap charge by another rider saw him in second. Not ruffled, A.J. dialed up the boost and passed the rider back over the finish line jump. In a photo finish, A.J. scored a hard earned second. That's a first and a second overall for the weekend.



Luke Lester grabbed three thirds and two fourths.



A. J. Lester scored a first and second in weekend races.

Luke Lester, in his first year of highly competitive CSRA Semi-Pro Division racing piloted his Janssens' of Muskoka Polaris fleet to three third place and two fourth place overall finishes in his best weekend of racing this season. After two weeks of intense work by Luke's tuner Tim George, his Polaris Indy Edge was running strong enough to card three qualifying round victories, beating many veteran semi-pro drivers.

On Friday night, under the lights, Luke scored a solid third in the Semi-Pro 500 final. On Saturday, Luke ran from last place to finish fourth in the Semi-Pro 600 final. On Sunday, he put his Indy XC-F SP in third place when the checkers fell and then scored another fourth in Semi-Pro 440 before capping off the weekend with an exciting run through the pack to a strong third place finish in Semi-Pro Open.

Only Luke and one other "rookie" semi-pro ran in the top four all weekend. Luke has established himself as one of the top CSRA Semi-Pro drivers after three events this season.

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No smoke, but plenty of firepower at Monmouth bonspiel

All involved were breathing a little easier, but a foursome skipped by Wilberforce's Ken Craig were breathing the easiest after chalking up a win at the Monmouth Curling Club's Smoke-Free Mixed Bonspiel.

The annual competition drew rinks form Haliburton, Bancroft, Minden and Keene to compete with local foursomes.

Skip Ken Craig got winning performances from vice Jim Donovan, second Bill Lewis, and wife Sharon Stoughton-Craig to squeak by a quartet skipped by Ed Morais, who had Tom Robinson at vice, Wilf LePage curling second and Brian Monaghan leading off.

Third spot went to another Wilberforce entry: skip Mark Smith, vice Michelle Smith, second Melanie Lewis and lead Blaine Lewis.

This year's spiel was convened by Colleen Ward, who laid on a very successful and enjoyable day for devotees of the "Roaring Game", with the support of sponsors, Cedar Meadow Golf Course, Ridgewood Restaurant, Schwandt Aggregate, Lewis Electric, Rogers Auto Repair, IGA Wilberforce and Schwandt Lumber. Many thanks to these sponsors.

ADDING A LITTLE "SPICE" TO A BONSPIEL:
Everyone turned a little pink with laughter when "The Spice Girls" arrived for the grand finale of the Valentine bonspiel at the Haliburton Curling Club on Saturday. The Echo was allowed to take their picture only on the condition we don't reveal the girls' names, given their rather masculine demeanour. Choreographed by bonspiel sponsor Annie Cochrane of Danielle's hair salon, who also did the make-up, their performance was absolutely stellar, with many people hoping the buxom lasses cross the pond again soon.

Dorset dock crash kills snowmobiler

A snowmobiler was killed near Dorset Saturday after crashing into a dock.

Carl Douglas Reid, 45, of Peterborough, was coming onto shore from Deer Lake in the Dorset area at about 11:30 p.m. when he struck a wooden dock that had been pulled onto shore for winter storage, reports the Minden OPP.

A second snowmobile, operated by Phillip Esson, age 37, of Port Hope, was following and veered left striking the bow of a stored aluminum boat.

Esson was taken to Huntsville Hospital for treatment of non-life threatening injuries.

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The Haliburton County Association For Community Living's board of directors, employees and people supported would like to sincerely thank the following for their donations to our 5th annual fund raising event "Dare To Ski". Due to the support from people such as yourselves in our community this event was a great success.

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Country Pickins
Cranberry Cottage
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Danielle's Hair Salon
Dawson Gray
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Kushog Lake Marine
Diane Lavigne
Sharon Lynch
Maggie Longworth
Mark's Restaurant
McKeck's Restaurant
Minden Drug Store
Minden Home Hardware
Mingles Restaurant
Mr. D's Donuts
Northern Lights
Northernways Transit
Old Country House Restaurant
Out of Time
Barb Peel

We would also like to say thank you to all the people who came out to ski. Last but not least, to all of you who pledged money in support of H.C.A.C.L. We hope to see you all next year at the 6th annual Haliburton County Association For Community Living's "Dare to Ski". We would like to extend our apologies to anyone who we may have inadvertently forgotten. Thank you to everyone.

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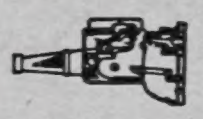

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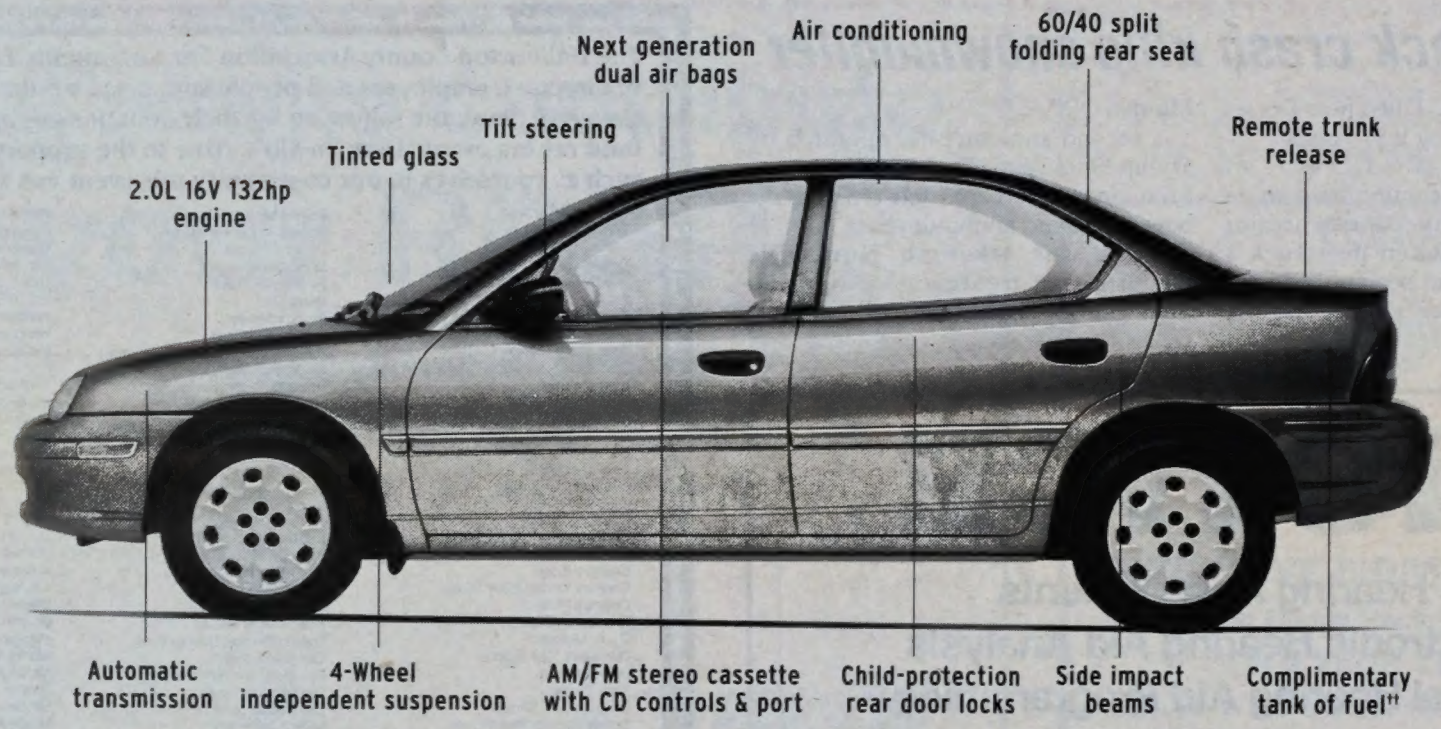

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